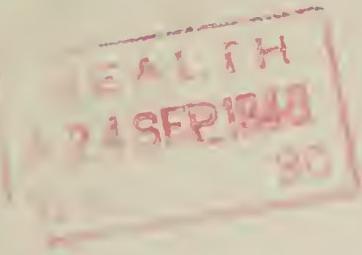


LITERARY



NANTWICH URBAN DISTRICT.

1947.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

K. Knowles F.R.C.S.

to which is appended the Report

of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

E. W. Bushell M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
C.S.I.B.



Council Offices,
Nantwich Urban District Council,
Brookfield,
Nantwich,
Cheshire.

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NANTWICH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1947.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Nantwich Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1947.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area: 1,173 acres. Estimated population at mid-1947: 8750. Number of inhabited houses (end of 1947) according to rate books: 2547. Rateable value: £45,543. Sum represented by penny rate: £171.2.6d.

Nantwich is an ancient town situated in the south-west corner of Cheshire, and is a market town for a large and important agricultural area. The River Weaver and the Shropshire Union Canal pass through the district and in parts both form the boundary of the Urban Area.

Industrial enterprise exists mainly in the form of clothing manufacture and a tannery. There is scope for the establishment of light industries, road and rail communications being very convenient; by rail the town is served by the L.M.S. and G.W.R. main lines from Crewe to Shrewsbury and Wellington, and good roads radiate from the town to all parts of Cheshire, Shropshire, the Potteries and North Wales.

Vital Statistics.

| | | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> | <u>Total.</u> |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Live Births. | Legitimate | 87 | 78 | 165 |
| | Illegitimate | 7 | 4 | 11 |
| | Total | <u>94.</u> | <u>82.</u> | <u>176.</u> |

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population: 20.11.

| Still Births. | Legitimate | 4 | 1 | 5 |
|---------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | Illegitimate | - | - | - |
| | Total | <u>4.</u> | <u>1.</u> | <u>5.</u> |

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births: 27.6.

| Deaths. | Total Deaths (including Inward Transfers) | <u>63.</u> | <u>64.</u> | <u>127.</u> |
|---------|--|------------|------------|-------------|
| | | | | |

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population: 14.51.

Deaths from - Puerperal Sepsis: Nil.
- Other Puerperal Causes: Nil.

Deaths of Infants (under one year of age)
Legitimate Males 3 Females 5
Illegitimate Males 1 Females - Total 9.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Death rate of Infants under one year:- | |
| All Infants per 1,000 live births: | 51.13. |
| Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births: | 48.48. |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births: | 90.90. |
| Deaths from - Cancer (all ages): | 26. |
| - Whooping Cough | nil; |
| - Measles (all ages): | nil. |
| - Diarrhoea (under two years): | 3. |
| - Tuberculosis (Respiratory - all ages): | 2. |

There was no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.

The extent of unemployment in the district during the year was negligible.

SECTION B.

General provision of Health Services for the Area.

i. Medical Officer of Health. (Part time). K.Knowles, F.R.C.S.

Sanitary Inspector and Meat

and Food Inspector.(Full time). E.W.Bushell, M.R.S.I.,
M.S.I.A., C.S.I.B.

Engineer and Surveyor.

(Full time). E.H.Bailey, F.R.I.C.S.
M.I.Mun.E., DIP.T.P.(Man),
A.M.T.P.I.

iia. Laboratory facilities.

Pathological specimens are submitted to

- (a) County Council Public Health Laboratory, Chester.
 - (b) Evans Biological Institute, Runcorn.
 - (c) Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

Water samples for bacteriological and chemical examination are submitted to the Public Health Laboratories, Manchester.

Milk samples for biological and bacteriological examination are submitted to the Pathological Department, Chester Royal Infirmary.

b. Ambulance facilities.

Non-infectious and accident cases. The Urban and Rural District Councils of Nantwich maintain a joint service, which includes the Urban Area; one motor vehicle is in operation, and is stationed in Nantwich.

Infectious cases. The Urban and Rural Joint Hospital Board maintains one motor vehicle which is stationed at the Isolation Hospital.

c. Nursing in the Home.

There are two trained Nurses in the district, one for maternity work and one for district work. These are controlled by a Committee, supported by voluntary subscriptions. A small charge is made to non-contributors requiring service.

d. Consultation and Treatment Centres and Clinics.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Centre and School Clinic is controlled by the County Council and a trained Health Visitor and School Nurse is in attendance.

The Venereal Disease Clinic at Herdman Street, Crewe, is maintained by the County, as also is an Orthopaedic and Tuberculosis Clinic at Crewe.

e. Hospitals in the District.

There is a County Council Public Assistance Institution and Hospital in the district and also a Cottage Hospital which is maintained by voluntary effort.

The Isolation Hospital, controlled by a Joint Board, serves the Urban and Rural Areas of Nantwich and has 41 beds; three diseases can be treated concurrently. An up-to-date steam disinfecting plant is in use. There is accommodation for smallpox cases from the Urban and Rural Areas at Ravensmoor.

f. Mortuary.

Apart from the mortuaries in connection with the hospitals in the district, a Public Mortuary is maintained by the Urban District Council and this is used by the Urban and Rural Authorities. The site of the present building lies on land to be developed for housing purposes and when necessary it is hoped to replace this with a modern well equipped mortuary on a suitable site.

SECTION C.

1.i. Water Supply.

The Engineer and Surveyor has kindly supplied the following information in connection with the year 1947. As from April 1st 1947 the district is served by the newly formed Mid and South-East Cheshire Water Board.

There is a sufficiency of water for the present needs of the existing population (drought conditions excepted), and the quality of the water is satisfactory. Chemical and bacteriological analyses are made frequently.

Most of the Urban district is supplied from Baddiley Waterworks; the water is pumped to Ravensmoor reservoir (capacity 250,000 gallons) gravitating from that point to the town. There is a constant supply and water is supplied direct to premises.

There are several dead-ends in the distribution system which will be connected through as soon as the labour is available for this purpose.

There is a slight plumbo-solvent action; according to the analyses this varies from nil to 0.7 per 1,000 gallons in 24 hours. Tin-lined lead pipes are used for house services. Occasionally there is a trace of action on aluminium and iron, but not enough to be stated numerically.

The water is treated on the 'Dual Coagulation' principle, the following chemicals being added - Sulphate of Alumina, Sodium Aluminate, Sodium Carbonate, and Hydrated Lime. Following treatment the water is passed through pressure filters and chlorinated.

An average of 206,468 gallons per day were supplied from the Baddiley source. The remaining portion of the district is supplied in bulk by the Nantwich Rural District Council from the Bearstone supply, amounting to 73,982 gallons per day.

The total daily consumption for the Urban District was 280,450 gallons which is equal to 32.05 gallons per head per day based on a population of 8,750.

ii. Sewage Disposal.

The Engineer and Surveyor has kindly supplied the following information.

The Sewage Disposal Works at Windy Arbour are modern and consist of Sedimentation Tanks, Filters, Humus Tanks and Sludge Drying Beds. The effluent is discharged into the River Weaver.

All sewage is pumped to the works from Beam Bridge Pumping Station. The storm water is dealt with at Beam Bridge Pumping Station where the storm water tanks deal with all flows above 3 D.W.P. and discharge it to the River Weaver.

2. Rivers and Streams.

The River Weaver flows through the district and this, along with other minor watercourses, is kept under observation for the prevention of pollution.

3. i. Closet Accommodation.

With the exception of the premises detailed by the Sanitary Inspector in his report the district is served by water closets.

ii. Public Cleansing.

The collection and disposal of house refuse, trade refuse and night-soil is controlled by the Surveyor, as also is street cleansing. Collection is by horse drawn vehicles and team labour, and disposal is by tipping.

iii. Public Baths.

The Open Air Brine Swimming Pool, owned and controlled by the Council, is open from May to September each year. The pool is 100 feet by 50 feet and is supplied with brine from the Council's Brine Well at the rear of the Town Hall. About 9 ozs. of brine is added per gallon of water. The pool is not heated, but the water is filtered and sterilized by the Cloramine process, being fed to the pool through a cascade.

Mixed bathing is allowed and dressing boxes for both sexes are provided; there are also cafe facilities.

Facilities are available for organised use of the Pool by school children and members of Youth Organisations.

iv. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area. }
v. Shops and Offices. }
vi. Moveable Dwelling and Camping Sites. }
vii. Eradication of Bugs. }
viii. Smoke Abatement. } These matters are dealt with by the Sanitary Inspector in his report.

SECTION D.

Housing.

Eight "private enterprise" new houses and thirtyseven permanent Council houses were completed for occupation during the year; thirty prefabricated bungalows of the Aluminium type were completed and occupied. A further four houses were under construction under licence by private enterprise.

Site works and construction of permanent houses has continued and the necessity continues for a large number of new houses for rehousing persons in unfit houses, separating families and relieving

overcrowding. The continued restriction of labour and materials and the consequent deferment of general repairs other than most urgent matters is regrettable and can only result in an increase in the number of houses which will be considered unfit for continued occupation when circumstances will permit progress in the demolition programme. There appears to be a definite need for two bed roomed houses and small type dwellings for aged persons.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food, Milk Supply, Meat and Other Foods.

These matters are fully covered in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SECTION F.

1. Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.

The district was free from serious epidemic disease during the year; no diphtheria cases were notified. One case of poliomyelitis was diagnosed after admission to, and observation in, Clatterbridge County Hospital.

Six specimens were examined for diphtheria and all were negative.

The following notifications were received during the year:-

| Disease. | Age Groups. | Total. |
|------------|--|--------|
| | -1.1/2.2/3.3/4.4/5.5/10.10/15.15/20.20/35. | |
| Sc. Fever. | - - - - 1 5 1 1 1 | 9 |
| Wh. Cough. | - - 1 - 2 4 - - - | 7 |
| Measles. | - 3 - - 4 9 1 - - | 17 |
| Totals:- | - 3 1 - 7 18 2 1 1 | 33. |

All the Scarlet Fever cases were removed to hospital.

The Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme has continued during the year, treatment being carried out at the Council's expense by Private Practitioners; the County Council accepted responsibility for charges in connection with children under five years of age.

Number of children immunised during the

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| year:- under 5 yrs: | 56 |
| - 5/14 yrs: | 18 |
| - Total:- | 74. |

Number of children who had reinforcing injections:

35.

Estimated child population at June
30th 1947:

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| - under 5 yrs: | 721 |
| - 1/4 yrs: | 565 |
| - 5/14 yrs: | 1159 |
| - Total:- | 1880, |

Estimated number of children
immunised:

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| - under 1 yr: | - |
| - under 5 yrs: | 243 |
| - 5/14 yrs: | 1087 |
| - Total:- | 1330. |

Percentage of children immunised:

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| - under 5 yrs: | 33.7 |
| - 1/4 yrs: | 43 |
| - 5/14 yrs: | 73.7 |
| - Total:- | { 70.7. 77.1. |

*This figure is based on estimated
child population aged 1-14 years inclusive.

2.a. Prevention of Blindness.

There was no special action by the Local Authority during the year.

b. Tuberculosis.

New cases and mortality during 1947.

| Age periods. | New Cases. | | | | Deaths. | | | |
|----------------|--------------|----------|------------------|----------|--------------|----------|------------------|----------|
| | Respiratory. | | Non-respiratory. | | Respiratory. | | Non-respiratory. | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 0-1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1-5 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| 5-10 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10-15 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15-20 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 20-25 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25-35 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 35-45 | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| 45-55 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 55-65 | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| 65 and over | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| <u>Totals:</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>1</u> |
| | <u>6</u> | <u>4</u> | | | <u>2</u> | <u>2</u> | | |

All deaths were notified cases.

Register of Cases.

| | Respiratory. | | Non-respiratory. | | Total. | |
|--|--------------|----|------------------|----|--------|----|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Cases on register 1.1.47: | 25 | 11 | 8 | 13 | 33 | 24 |
| Cases notified for first time during year: | 5 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 2 |
| Cases added on transfer from other districts: | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| Cases removed during year - died, removed from district etc: | 6 | - | 1 | 5 | 7 | 5 |
| Cases on register 31.12.47: | 25 | 12 | 10 | 9 | 35 | 21 |

There were 22 specimens examined at the County Public Health Laboratory and all were negative.

After death of a patient, or removal to sanatorium, bedding, rooms etc., were disinfected.

SECTION G.

Factories Act, 1937.

Part I of the Act.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

| Premises. | Number on Register. | Number of Inspections. | Written Notices. | Occupiers Prosecuted. |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| i. Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities. | 27 | 5 | 1 | - |
| ii. Factories not included in i in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. | 50 | 12 | 1 | - |
| iii. Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. ² (excluding out-workers' premises.) | 10 | 5 | - | - |
| <u>Total:</u> | <u>87</u> | <u>22</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>-</u> |

² i.e. Electrical Stations (Section 103(1)), Institutions. (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

| Particulars. | Number of cases in which defects were found. | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. |
|---|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| | Found. | Remedied. | Referred | |
| | | To H.M. Inspector. | By H.M. Inspector. | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1). | - | - | - | - |
| Overcrowding (S.2). | - | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3). | - | - | - | - |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4). | - | - | - | - |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6). | - | - | - | - |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7). | | | | |
| a. insufficient | 1 | - | - | - |
| b. Unsuitable or defective | 1 | 1 | - | 1 |
| c. Not separate for sexes | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) | - | - | - | - |
| <u>Total:</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>2</u> |

Part VIII of the Act.

Outwork (Sections 110 and 111).

| Nature of work. | No. of out-workers | No. of cases of default | No. of instances of failure | No. of Notices served. | Prosecutions. |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| | | | | | |
| 110(1)(c). Council. | | | | | |

Wearing apparel. Making etc.

12

-

-

-

-

-

Yours faithfully,

K. KNOWLES, F.R.C.S.

Medical Officer of Health.

NANTWICH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1947.

To The Chairman and Members of the Nantwich Urban District Council.

Mr Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure and honour to submit my report for the year 1947 for your information and consideration.

The year has been one of increased progress in some directions but we are still bound by controls and restrictions which circumstances seem to require, as a result of which standards of conditions cannot be raised to the desired level. In the meantime age, with consequent decay, leaves its mark and property is deteriorating rapidly through want of maintenance. It is possible, and even so with difficulty, to get only the barest of maintenance repairs carried out at the present time.

A high proportion of my time has to be spent in the office to maintain efficient records and administration. With the provision of clerical assistance I could confine my office work to administration and control and have more time to carry out a more comprehensive programme of outdoor inspections. Apart from matters of housing conditions, the factories, shops, food premises and other matters are not receiving the attention which I would like to give, and I trust that some means of relieving the position will be found in the near future.

It will be seen from the figures later in this report that a lot of time has been taken up in interviewing applicants for Council Houses. Contractors continue to avail themselves of the opportunity of discussing notice requirements with me. I feel that the time spent in these interviews and discussions is worth while and of benefit to all concerned.

I am grateful for the opportunity of attending, as the Council's delegate, Conferences of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association, The Royal Sanitary Institute, and The National Smoke Abatement Society. The value of such meetings lies not only in the papers and discussions but also in the personal contacts with colleagues in the service and the private discussions outside the conference hall. I would also record my appreciation of the cooperation and good feeling of members and fellow officers of the Council during the year.

I submit the following information as to work done and conditions prevailing during the year.

I. VISITS MADE.

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------|---------------------|--------------|
| Dwellinghouses - Public Health Acts. | 68. | House Drainage. | 129. |
| - Housing Act. | 3. | Dust Bins. | 281. |
| Reinspections - Public Health Acts. | 126. | Keeping of Animals. | 2. |
| Housing - Interviews Applicts.C.Hses. | 889. | Drain tests. | 16. |
| - Visits to Applicts.C.Houses. | 83. | Cesspools etc. | 1. |
| - Overcrowding. | 1. | Courts, Passages. | 2. |
| - Requisitioning. | 14. | Licensed Premises. | 3. |
| - Individual Unfit Houses. | 4. | Water Sampling. | 2. |
| Appointments - Owners. | 28. | Milk Sampling. | 19. |
| - Contractors. | 41. | Shops Act 1934. | 11. |
| Infectious Diseases - Primary. | 9. | Movable Dwellings. | 6. |
| - Secondary. | 8. | Rodent Control. | 27. |
| Disinfections. | 15. | Disfestations. | 28. |
| Offensive Accumulations. | 2. | Ditches etc. | 5. |
| Verminous Premises. | 16. | Schools. | 3. |
| Food Premises - General. | 25. | Food Inspection. | 52. |
| - Reg. Premises. | 15. | Dairies, Cowsheds. | 35. |
| Factories - Mechanical. | 12. | Factory Outworkers. | 4. |
| - Non-mechanical. | 5. | Pail Closets. | 2. |
| - Building Sites. | 5. | Substitn. of W.C's. | 82. |
| Miscellaneous. | 151. | TOTAL. . . | <u>2265.</u> |

III. NOTICES SERVED.

| | <u>Served.</u> | <u>Complied.</u> |
|--|----------------|------------------|
| Public Health Acts - Informal. | 296. | 236. |
| -Formal. -Sect. 39. 1936. | 6.) | 4.) |
| -Sect. 44. 1936. | 8.) | -.) |
| -Sect. 45. 1936. | 4.) | 2.) |
| -Sect. 56. 1936. | 3.) | 3.) |
| -Sect. 75. 1936. | 22.) | 20.) |
| -Sect. 93. 1936. | 6.) | 4.) |
| Factories Act 1937 - Informal. | 2. | 1. |
| - Formal. | 1. | 1. |
| Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act and Infestation Orders. - Informal. | 2. | 3. |
| Food and Drugs Act 1938. - Informal. and Milk and Dairies Orders. | 10. | 1. |

Compliances include notices served in previous year. Of the notices outstanding at the year end the majority are in hand by Contractors.

Complaints received and investigated. 140.

III. DEFECTS DEALT WITH IN NOTICES SERVED.

| <u>Defect.</u> | <u>Noted.</u> | <u>Remedied.</u> |
|---|---------------|------------------|
| Rainwater Gutters - defective. | 28. | 10. |
| - insufficient. | 9. | 4. |
| Rainwater downspouts - defective. | 15. | 5. |
| - insufficient. | 4. | 1. |
| - ventilating drains. | 2. | 1. |
| Drains - choked. | 15. | 15. |
| - defective and/or insufficient. | 22. | 21. |
| Sewers - Private - Choked. | 9. | 8. |
| Sink and/or Bath waste pipes - defective. | 5. | 2. |
| - insufficient. | 4. | 3. |
| Soil Pipes - insufficiently ventilated. | 1. | 1. |
| Dust Bins - defective. | 119. | 110. |
| - insufficient or absence of. | 11. | 8. |
| Water Closets - defective fittings. | 15. | 7. |
| - defective structures. | 21. | 14. |
| - insufficient accommodation. | 1. | 1. |
| - miscellaneous matters. | 4. | 2. |
| Pail Closets - defective pails. | 2. | 1. |
| - defective structures. | 7. | 5. |
| - disused. | 7. | 7. |
| - requiring substitution of W.C's. | 8. | 9. |
| House roofs - defective. | 25. | 8. |
| Windows - defective frames. | 12. | 2. |
| - defective cords etc. | 1. | 2. |
| - defective sills. | 2. | 1. |
| Ventilation - insufficient. | 1. | 1. |
| Dirty conditions - walls. | 1. | 1. |
| - floors. | 1. | 1. |
| - yards. | 1. | 1. |
| Water supply - insufficient. | 1. | 1. |
| - not provided indoors. | 14. | 8. |
| - defective supply pipes. | 15. | 10. |
| Fireplaces - defective. | 3. | 2. |
| - defective and/or choked flues. | 4. | 2. |
| - miscellaneous defects. | 2. | 1. |
| Wallplaster - defective. | 3. | 1. |
| - damp. | 19. | 4. |
| Ceiling plaster - defective. | 19. | 2. |
| Floors - defective paving. | 6. | 3. |
| - defective woodwork. | 1. | 3. |
| Defective brickwork and pointing. | 27. | 11. |
| Paving of yards - defective. | 11. | 7. |

| | | |
|---|-----|---------|
| Sinks - defective. | 1. | 1. |
| - absence of. | 14. | 8. |
| Offensive accumulations. | 9. | 8. |
| Keeping of Animals - cleanliness. | 1. | 1. |
| Washing accommodation. - defective. | 3. | 2. |
| Stairs - defective. | 3. | 1. |
| Verninous conditions - bugs. | 20. | 16. -x- |
| Rodent infestation. | 2. | 2. |
| Food Premises - cleanliness. | 2. | 1. |
| Dangerous structures. | 6. | 4. |
| Milk and Dairies Orders - Limewashing. | 7. | 4. |
| - General cleanliness. | 1. | 1. |
| - Water supply. | 1. | 1. |
| - Poultry in shippion. | 2. | 1. |
| - Paving and drainage. | 1. | 1. |
| - Ventilation. | 1. | 1. |
| - dirty equipment. | 2. | 1. |
| Ditches, watercourses. | 1. | 1. |
| Factories - cleanliness of sanitary conveniences. | 1. | 1. |
| - inadequate sanitary accommodation. | 1. | 1. |
| Miscellaneous. | 16. | 7. |

| | | |
|-----------------|------|------|
| Totals. | 571. | 355. |
|-----------------|------|------|

-x- treated and under observation.

Of the items outstanding in the foregoing table a large number are in hand by contractors; "remedied" items include a number which were outstanding from previous years and have been done in 1947.

IV. HOUSING.

It has again in 1947 not been possible nor opportune to make the much needed detailed inspection of dwellings with a view to extensive repair or demolition. The continued restriction of labour and materials has made it necessary to confine requirements to essential matters connected with nuisances or dangerous conditions.

The need for many more houses remains most acute. In the course of the year a further 30 prefabricated bungalows were completed and occupied. Site works were carried out and building of permanent houses proceeded at Weaver Road, Hillfield, Audlem Road, and Shrewbridge Road. By the end of the year 37 brick houses were completed for occupation. The severe weather in the early part of the year had a serious effect upon the rate of progress. Eight houses were completed by private enterprise and four were in process of building.

Action was commenced during the year with a view to making Demolition Orders on three houses which are in a very bad and dangerous state. The Owner of two houses gave an informal undertaking upon selection of his tenants for Council Houses that the houses would not be relet for human habitation. In a further instance a tenant was removed from a requisitioned house to a Council House and it is not anticipated that the premises will be reoccupied owing to the most unsatisfactory conditions. Two families in which there are tuberculous persons were granted the tenancy of Council Houses. The application register for Council Houses stood at more than 500 at the end of the year, and it was apparent that the "Points Scheme" for the selection of tenants which had operated for the past year needed revision to remove certain anomalies. The registration of applicants and the maintenance of records along with visits of investigation occupies a considerable amount of time.

V. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Cases of "notifiable" diseases were visited as soon as possible after notification; in the instance of Measles and Whooping Cough a leaflet is sent to the parents advising on isolation and exclusion of contacts from school. Head Teachers are advised of the occurrence of cases of Scarlet fever etc. The number of cases of disease notified during the year was remarkably low, there being 9 cases of Scarlet fever, 17 Measles, and 7 Whooping Cough.

There were 6 new cases of Pulmonary and 4 of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year.

In the latter part of the year a boy was removed from St Joseph's School to Clatterbridge Hospital for observation and was later diagnosed as a case of Poliomyritis; the case was recorded as occurring at Clatterbridge.

Where necessary the disinfection of rooms and bedding was carried out, the latter being usually removed to the Isolation Hospital for steam disinfection.

The Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme has continued to operate, the County Council being financially responsible for the treatment of children under 5 years of age. Every opportunity is taken to encourage parents to have children treated; during the showing of the film "So Well Remembered" at local cinemas special attention was drawn to the scheme by poster and press notices.

VI. DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, MILK SUPPLY.

Revision of the register of milk producers and sellers has continued and present records show that there are 21 cowkeepers, 8 of which are holders of Accredited Licences.

Two new dairy buildings came into use during the year and one new shippon was constructed. At one dairy it has still not been possible to obtain supply of gas or electricity for lighting and heating although the occupier gave instructions in 1946. One new licence as "Accredited Producer" and one as "Tuberculin Tested Producer" were granted by the County Council during the year.

Eighteen samples of milk were taken during the year and were submitted for biological and bacteriological examination. The following reports were received and in the case of unsatisfactory samples the matter was taken up with the seller and producer; when the milk originated from another district the results were communicated to the Sanitary Inspector for the area.

| Grade. | Tuberc. Bacilli. | Methylene Blue Test. | Phosphatase. Test. | Bac. Coli. | Bact. Count. |
|---|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. Ordinary. | Negative. | - | - | Pres. | 7,168,000 |
| 2. Pasteurised. (not sold as such). | Negative. | Failed. | Passed. | Pres. | 2,092,000 |
| 3. Ordinary. | Negative. | - | - | Pres. | 323,233 |
| 4. T.T. Past. | Negative. | Failed. | Passed. | Pres. | 474,000. |
| 5. Ordinary. | Negative. | - | - | Pres. | 399,400. |
| 6. T.T. | Negative. | Failed. | - | Pres. | 293,330 |
| 7. Ordinary. | Negative. | - | - | Pres. | 360,000 |
| 8. Ordinary. | Negative. | - | - | Pres. | 3,600,000 |
| 9. Pasteurised. (School) | Negative. | Passed. | Passed. | Abs. | 6,640 |
| 10. Ordinary. | Negative. | - | - | Pres. | 59,730 |
| 11. Ordinary. (Prod.as Accred.) | Negative. | Failed. | - | Abs. | 6,800 |
| 12. Accredited. | Negative. | Passed. | - | Abs. | 1,600 |
| 13. Ordinary. (Prod.as Accred.) | Negative. | Failed. | - | Pres. | 2,400,000 |
| 14. Pasteurised. (not sold as) | - | Passed. | Passed. | Pres. | 800,000 |
| 15. Ordinary. (Prod.as Acc.) | - | Passed. | - | Pres. | 13,300 |
| 16. T.T. | - | Failed. | - | Pres. | 1,600,000 |
| 17. Ordinary. | - | Passed. | - | Abs. | 3,600 |
| 18. Ordinary. | - | Failed. | - | Pres. | 45,000 |

There are 25 Retailers of milk on the register. The following licences, issued by the Local Authority, were in force during the year :-

| | |
|--|----|
| Dealer's licence to use designation "Tuberculin Tested". | 3. |
| Supplementary Dealer's Licence - "Tuberculin Tested". | 2. |
| Supplementary Dealer's Licence - "Pasteurised". | 1. |
| Supplementary Dealer's Licence - " T.T.Pasteurised". | 1. |

VII. BAKEHOUSES.

There are 15 bakehouses on the register and these are visited periodically under the Food and Drugs Act and Factories Act.

VIII. SHOPS ACT 1934.

There were no complaints in connection with the ventilation, temperature, and sanitary conveniences in the shops which number approximately 200. There has been little opportunity for routine survey of the shops in the area owing to pressure of other work.

IX. FACTORIES.

Two references were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories during the year. One was in connection with a factory at which there is no separate W.C. accommodation for females who are employed part-time; facilities are available across the road and until alterations can be more easily carried out this arrangement has been temporarily approved. In the other case notice was served concerning the defective and dirty sanitary accommodation; this matter was remedied. One return of "Outworkers" was received and contained details of 12 persons engaged in the finishing of clothing.

X. WATER SUPPLY.

Two samples of water were obtained from a consumer's tap and were submitted to the laboratory for bacteriological and chemical examination; satisfactory reports were received.

XI. MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

One trailer caravan and temporary building were licensed as a dwelling during the year. No nuisance has arisen from the use of these structures.

XII. OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There were no complaints in connection with the Tannery and Fellmongery during the year. Periodic treatment was carried out at the Tannery for the control of rats and mice.

XIII. COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no premises of this character in the district.

XIV. CANAL BOATS.

No complaints were received and no inspections were made during the year.

XV. SMOKE ABATEMENT.

It was again necessary to warn the Manager of the County Council Schools' Cooking Depot informally as to the emission of excessive amounts of smoke. This trouble appears to be mainly due to the quality of fuel available for use in the boilers.

XVI. SCHOOLS.

No complaints were received as to the sanitary condition of schools. It is noted however that the playground surface at the Modern Schools is not in good repair and it is understood that this matter has received consideration by the Education Committee. The Church of England Schools were redecorated throughout and electric lighting has now been installed.

The practice of notifying Head Teachers of the incidence of Infectious Diseases has been continued.

XVII. LICENSED PREMISES.

It has not been possible to inspect many of these premises during the year; at those visited there was no cause for complaint.

XVIII. VERMIN.

No further complaint has been received in connection with the Council House treated in 1945 with DDT powder for the destruction of crickets. Advice has been given on several occasions for the destruction of flies and cockroaches.

XIX. ERADICATION OF BUGS.

Twenty one premises were treated, including three Council Houses. "Zaldecide", "Killgercide", and "Vermicide" liquid insecticides, containing DDT were used and the premises treated are under observation. Ten of the houses were in one block.

Where considered necessary the belongings of selected tenants for Council Houses are treated before moving in to the houses. A limited amount of treatment is carried out for tenants of occupied premises, but the owner is held responsible for the treatment of unoccupied premises. Treatment is carried out by direct labour under my supervision.

XX. RODENT CONTROL.

One part-time operative works under my supervision in this matter. There was no occasion for formal action during the year. The Council Tips and Sewage Works are regularly treated and during the year the systematic treatment of the sewerage system was continued. A test baiting of the sewers in the late autumn showed very little evidence of infestation apart from the sewage works. The baits used in treatment have been Sausage Rusk and Bread Mash, and these have been poisoned with Zinc Phosphide, Red Squill, or Arsenic.

| | |
|--|------|
| Number of Council premises treated in year - Tips etc. | 10. |
| Number of Private Annual Contracts for Treatment in force. | 7. |
| Number of Short Term Private Contracts for Treatment in force. | 6. |
| Number of premises treated during the year. | 23. |
| Number of visits by operative to premises in survey and treatment. | 269. |
| Number of premises showing no evidence upon survey. | 1. |
| Number of premises showing clearance after treatment. | 5. |

XXI. SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1933.

There were 19 Slaughtermen's Licences in force during the year. No notifications of the slaughter of animals were received.

XXII. PAIL CLOSETS.

Progress in the substitution of water closets for pail closets has been slow owing to the delays and uncertainty of materials. Few closets were added to the register as a result of further survey; in 5 instances where substitution of water closets was not practicable or desirable the closets were reconditioned and brought up to a good standard as pail closets. Ten pail closets were replaced by water closets. Formal notice was served in seven instances and the provision of water closets was in hand at the end of the year; work was in hand also in connection with seven other cases upon informal request. Where appropriate the Council have contributed to the cost of substituting water closets, such contributions not exceeding one half of the cost. The costs have been high in some cases because the position and depth of the drains existing was such that new structures had to be built.

The following is the position at the end of 1947 :-

| | |
|--|-----|
| Insanitary and unuseable. | 1. |
| In connection with unfit houses. | 40. |
| Beyond reach of sewers - extension impracticable. | 11. |
| - extension practicable. | 8. |
| Within reach of sewers but premises not drained. | 10. |
| At premises where drainage outfall requires investigation. | 4. |
| Suitable for substitution of water closets. | 21. |

| | |
|--|------|
| Total known to exist at beginning of 1947. | 101. |
| Additions to register on further survey. | 4. |
| Water Closets substituted during year. | 10. |
| Total known to exist at end of 1947. | 95. |

XXIII. GENERAL SANITATION AND NUISANCES.

At one house, hitherto having only a soakaway drain for sink waste matter, a complete new system of drainage was installed with connection to main sewer, including substitution of a water closet for the pail closet.

In connection with eight houses, indoor sinks were fixed and the outdoor standpipes were abolished and replaced with mains supply taps over the sinks. At four of these houses the drains were completely reconstructed and the yards were paved with cement slabs in substitution for the uneven cobbled paving.

One insanitary cesspool in a back yard was abolished.

At eight premises where water closets have been provided the pail closet structures have been adapted as coal stores thus adding to the domestic facilities.

The provision of 119 new dust bins, in addition to those provided without notice, is a useful contribution to improved standard facilities for the storage of refuse throughout the area.

It was necessary in one instance to institute legal proceedings under the Public Health Act 1936 to secure the abatement of a nuisance arising from a defective living room range back boiler. The Magistrates made an order for abatement within 14 days and also ordered the defendant to pay costs.

Dust bins were provided in 14 instances by the Council in default of the owners upon statutory notices.

XXIV. FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938.

The two licensed slaughterhouses in the district have not been used during the year, all butchers' meat being prepared and distributed from Crewe. There has been no occasion to complain in connection with the transport of meat, but I still hope to see a uniform type of vehicle and standard dress for those engaged in handling meat.

There have been frequent requests from retailers for examination of foodstuffs and the following is a statement of goods examined :-

Food examined and found fit for human consumption.

Cheese 7 lbs. Evaporated Milk 72 cans.

Total estimated weight. 2 qr. 24 lbs.

Food examined and found unfit for human consumption.

143 cans Evap. Milk. 310 lbs Oatmeal. 1 can Turkey. 9 cans Sardines.
 2 cans Macaroni and Cheese. 7 cans Peas. 7 cans Stewed Steak.
 5 cans Pilchards. 18 cans Beans. 5 cans Salmon. 1 jar Jam.
 1 can Crawfish. 1 can Meat and Veg. Ration. 14 cans Tomatoes.
 10 Pkts Suet. 35 Pkts Jelly Crystals. 1 can Hake. 11 cans Soup.
 3 cans Fish Paste. 3 cans Marmalade. 1 can Beetroot. 27 cans Fruit.
 1 jar Marmalade. 27 cans Jam. 3 cans Luncheon Meat. 1 Pkt Dates.
 4 cans Vegetables. 10 lbs Dried Peaches. 3 cans Sausages. 2 lbs Figs.
 9 lbs Plain Flour. 1 can Potted Meat. 24 lbs Black Puddings.
 24 lbs White Puddings. 5 lbs Macaroni. 62 lbs Sweets. 1 jar Spread.

The above articles were suitably disposed of; the following were returned to the suppliers in accordance with the Ministry of Food instructions.

21½ lbs Cheese. 55½ lbs Bacon and Ham. 29½ lbs Butter.

Total estimated weight. 8 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lbs.

Total estimated weight of goods examined. 3 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lbs.

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment Etc) Regulations came into force on May 1st 1947, and set out standard requirements concerning equipment and methods of manufacture of Ice Cream. A survey of premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act showed that no ice cream was actually made in the area during the year. Advice was given to persons concerned as to the requirements of the Regulations and the position will be kept under strict observation.

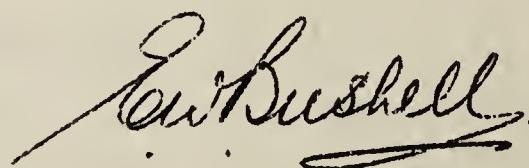
Mr Stacey Hallard, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, Cheshire County Council, has kindly given the following particulars of samples taken for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act during the year :-

Brawn - 1. Butter - 1. Cheese - 1. Coffee - 1.
Cooking Fat - 1. Cream of Tartar - 1. Fish Paste - 1.
Gin - 1. Ground Ginger - 1. Margarine - 1. Milk - 13.
Dried Prunes - 1.

Two of the milk samples were below standard and the vendors were warned, one sample being 10% and the other 22% deficient in fat. All other samples were genuine.

In conclusion I would express the hope that the year 1948 will see an improvement in general conditions in the country which will make it possible to achieve some further progress in raising the standard of living conditions, and I assure the Council of my continued efforts to that end as far as Nantwich is concerned.

Yours faithfully,



Sanitary Inspector.